WORK AUTOBIOGRAPHY _ Jim Huber (1975)

1955 - 1959 (14 to 18 yr. old)

During this period of time , I worked part time at the Pierce county Film Library after school and on Saturdays. The work consisted of taking the films that had been sent back after being used and checking them and rewinding them at the same time. The films were put onto a rewinding machine, and a spool of the proper size was selected and put on the other side of the machine. The film was them put into the spool and a foot petal,connected to a motor,was depressed to makethe empty spool go around. The film was inserted into the empty spool and the film was then transfered from one spool to the other. During this time , I had to hold the film between my two fingers with a kleenex tissue to check for breaks in the film. If I found a break, I had to stop the film and use the splicer to repair the film. The splicer cuts the film, to remove the bad area and I put on smme glue and press the two ends of the film together to make the repair. After the film had been checked and repaired, I took the film and filed it back on the shelves in its proper location. The films were numbered, so it was not difficult to locate the proper area. During the summer when the films were not used often, we would clean the films with a cleaning solution. The procedure was similar to the way we checked the films, but the solution was put onto a kleenex and the tissue was held against both sides of the film while the film passed between the tissue and from one spool to the other. Other times , I would take the boxes of returned films and open them and chekk them against the order form. Also there were times when I was responsible for filling the orders that would come in. I would take the order sheet, find the films on the shelves, pull them off and put them into boxes, weight was measured, stamps were attached , and labeles put on. The boxes were them taken out to the mail pickup. I cannot remember alot about my feelings at that time, but I do remember that the job was very tiring and dull. There were some other people to talk to , but the people in charge did not want us to talk , because were were apt to make mistakes. I always felt like we should have a radio or something to keep us more alert, and not so bored. I did not look forward to this type of work and disliked it very much

During this ~~period~~ period of time I did not feel at all secure in being with people and expressing myself in any areas. I usually found activities that would allow me to be by jyself. During this time, I built a boat with the help of my

father. I remember that we took some small plans and he helped me draw them up to full size. I took these cutout plans and layed them on the wood and cut out the pieces and followed the instructions to put all the pieces together. This was something I enjoyed very much. I liked using the boat to go fishing in the Bay at Tachoma .

I also enjoyed trying to make things, like go-karts, consturcted from pieces of wood , I found around the house and our Lawn mower motor. Other interests I had were tropical fish, and and trying to take apart anything that did not work , just to see if I could repair it but mostly just to see how it worked. I remember helping my brother take apart an automobile motor and studying it to see how it worked. We put new parts into it and put it all back together.

I also played the saxaphone in the school band and took lessons, but I never felt I was able to do an average or better than average job with this instrument. I always felt very scared if I would be asked to do any solo parts. THERE WERE ALWAYS THOSE WHO COULD DO THE JOB SO MUCH BETTER.

Later in high school, I switched to singing. Here I was always much better then most, and I was asked to do the solos. I still felt afraid, but there was a great deal of reinforcement from others, so I practiced and enjoyed this time.

1959 -

During this summer, I had a part time job with the county roads department, working as part of the clean-up crew. This job must have been one of the worst times I have ever spent working. I remember every ~~morning~~ morning getting on the back of a grass cutting maching and riding out to where we were going to be cutting weed and cleaning up . I think the thing that bothered me most was the man who I had to work for at this time. He was a short stocky man who smoked a big cigar everyday. He would never say one word to me and I think that is what bothered me most. I relate this experience as to what I have learned about the treatment of the prisioners of war in Korea and Vietnam. It drove me crazy to have to work by myself all day without ever saying anything, especially when there were other people to talk to if I had just been put onto one of the other crews. I felt cheated.

The things that bothered me were the total lack of care for others. This man would cut down shrubs and trees of people with care. I remember on time I was ordered to cut off branches of trees that were slightly overhanging the county property in an expensive neighborhood and we had a great argument. I lost so I began, when a lady came out very upset, that I was destroying her property, I told here I also was very upset and told her I would quit before I would continue to compromise my feelings about destroying beautiful trees.

I THINK ANY JOB COULD BE REWARDING IF THERE WAS SOME INCENTIVE TO CREATE BEAUTY FOR OTHERS.

1960 - SCHOOL

1960 -

During the summer of this year, I worked for the Tachoma General Hospital . I remember three different jobs during this time. The first was helping in the stock supply room, to fill orders for the day. Most of the time I was taking the orders and going to the shelves getting the items and putting these on a cart to be taken to the many areas in the hospital. The job was not very hard, but I was responsible for making sure that I did have the right items ordered and making sure that they were delivered to the right departments. This job was probably also boring, but the people I worked with were very nice, and friendly. The people I delivered the items to were always very happy and pleased. It was very interesting to see all of the many different areas in the hospital, and I always felt I had done a service to someone, because of the many sick people who were being helped by my little part of bringing supplies.

During this time I met many new people . There were always many new things to see and learn in the hospital. A VERY REWARDING EXPERIENCE.

Another job I had at this time was to help fill all of the bottles of solutions that were required in each department. These included cleaning solutions, mouthwashes alcohol solutions, and others. This job did have some responsibility to makd sur that none of the solutions would get mixed up and that they were all labeled properly. After the filling and marking, they were delivered to each of the departments and put into their supply area.In this job, I had to learn some chemical names and how to mix simple solutions.

Another job I had for a few weeks was working in the printing shop of the hospital. This and the other jobs were training so I could do the jobs alone while each of the people in charge of these different areas went on there vacation. IN the printing shop I learned how to cut paper , I learned about the different kinds of paper, and I learned how to run a ~~printing press and set it up~~.duplicating machine and set it up properly. I had to take the proper weight of paper, use the right ink, and set up the stencil in the proper place. This job was very interesting to me to be able to learn how to use this piece of machinery. I do remember that while the man in charge was on vacation, an important and unexpected letter needed to be copied, something I had not learned how to do. I did not feel qualified for this job and told the people I did not think I could reproduce it to the professional quality that would be needed, but after working with the set up of ink and paper for a short while, I was able to produce what I thought was quality far better than my ability. I was very proud of this achivement and the people needing this letter were also very pleased and surprised. For a routine job, I would find this type of job dull, but to learn something new, it was very interesting.

Thinking back on this time I spent working, I felt it was very rewarding because of the many things I learned, the many new people I met, the feeling that I had accomplished something that was useful to others, and especially being with people who were interested in their jobs and seeing how all of these many small (assumed) unimportant jobs fit together to run the total hospital for the purpose of helping others.

I also enjoyed being given responsibility to do a job that I knew that others were counting on, and being able to do the job well.

1961 - SCHOOL

1961 -

After doing poorly in school after two years , because of lack of incentive, I decided to get a job working at the Boeing company, and try to decide to what I wanted to do in this life. I remember only some of the many jobs that I did there, but almost all were about the same. In all cases I was doing small jobs that would be given to me that day. I might clean off the wing surface of a plane to put on rubber pads, or climb on to a 50 foot high set-up to attach bolts(something I did not like at all) or go to the steel supplies with a requisition for a certain piece of metal. Much of the time I was a arrand boy, but there were some times when I was given some jobs to do such as drilling, lathework, but most of this was under closely supervised conditions.

Because I disliked this job situation there is not much I have to say about those things I liked. There were some good times of learning about epuipment, as I observed many different areas during my delivering and pick-up. I did have time to watch the different people at work, each at his or her own specialized job. I was able to watch the milling operations, painting, lathe operation, The purpose of these operations was for testing the limits of strength in planes under differing conditions. I always wanted to beable to follow through on the whole project, but I was only required to do one small part of a job and then I would be sent somewhere else. This is what I disliked most of was not being able to see what part my work played in the testing program. I also did not like the close supervision, which made me feel like I had no ability of my own.

I would liked to have learned how to use the many different types of equipment that I saw, but now I do not think I would want to do just one typ of job all the time. I did try to get into there training program to become a machineist but they would not consider me. Even with two years of college there were others who with less education were being taken. I became very dissappointed after this and decided this was not the type of job I wanted for the rest of my life.

Another thing I did not like, was drivin g in the traffic everyday. I do not like to have to stand in line, wander through the crowds of people shopping or drive in dense traffic.

1962 -

IN the summer of 1 and spring I went into the Army reserve program and was sent to Fort Ord Calif. for basie training. This part of the army bothered me the most. Here were/we were ordered to follow only the instructions given. No opportunity was given for any individual free will. I did understand the value of following the orders during a time of war, but most of the people I trainied with were also in the reserve program and had several years of college education vs. instructers with field war experience which was difficult to accept at times.

After the basic training , I went to Hospital training and work in Texas. Here also I found much of the Army life difficult to accept, but there was reward in the training and work I did in the hospital. We learned much about Medical emergency care in classes, but the times I enjoyed most were working on the Wards and taking care of the patients. We were able to move to many different areas and work in the hospital, such as burn care, emergency room, diseases wards, hearing clinic. Here , in the hearing clinic, I was able to learn to do tests for the Doctor in charge. I found the time there of great interest. I was responsible for puting the patients into the testing room, putting on the ear phones and testing there hearing response with a random sequence of sound tones. I had to judge there reaction on each of the tomes and recheck if there was any question or if I thought there was any cheating. The final decision on any questions was left to the Doctor, but I felt what I was doing was rewarding, because I was saving the Doctor a great deal of time.

Other duties were caring for the patients needs, whether they wanted water or needed a bath or there sheets changed. These times were mostly good, because I liked to talk to the patients. Most of them did not have any one to talk to, and they really liked to talk. I also liked to listen and enjoy and learn from the experiences of all the people I talk with.

1962 -

In the fall of this year I was released from the Army full time service and I came back to Tacoma to begin work at the boeing company who was committed to rehiring me becaus I was only on Army leave of absence.
In the fall I joined a reserve unit in Seattle that worked at the University of Washington Hospital. The women ~~was~~ who inteviewed me was incharge of this unit and she asked me what I wanted to do. I told her I was taking night ~~classed~~ at the University and would like to be a Bacteriologist. Since she was a Doctor in the ~~Micrology~~ biology dept. at the University she said there might be jobs available ~~at~~ in her department, as a laboratory technician. I very quickly and exicitedly applied for a position there. I would have to take a drop ~~in~~ from the amount of money I was making at Boeing, but I decided it was well worth the difference to beable to work at the Hospital.
I ~~joined~~ began work there in April 1963

1963--
When ~~joining~~ deciding to work at the Hospital , I did not what type of work I would be doing, but after being shown around, I knew this was what I had wanted to do for a long time.
I began working for the Doctor who had interviewed and hired me, and she was incharge of the electron microscope research in the Microbiology dept. I did not know anything about this type of work, but, was excited about learning.
I remember seeing a picture of a new type of microscope when I was about 12 years old, and thinking that I would really like to learn how to use one of those. It really was like a dream come true when I discovered that this was what I would be learning todo.
All of the techniques I would be needing to use as a technician for electron microscopy, I learned from Dr. Chambers. Her ways of doing techniques were exact, careful, and accurate. I do not think I would enjoy this type of training again, but at the time I did not know any different and I wanted greatly to learn how to do the work. Her need for accurate details, and precision work taught me how to to work with great care and patience. I am very thankful for this early learning experience, because it gave me a need for perfection in almost everything I do today.

I began learning about electron microscopy, by using an ultramicrotome. Here I would take a piece of plastic embedded tissue, trim off the excess tissue and epoxy under a disecting microscope and then put this block into a holder that clamps the plastic block tightly. I then take the holder and put it into the microtome . I then took a glass knife which we had I had broken with pressure from a bar, and put that into the microtome, Much care was then required to accurately align the plastic block and the knife to begin cutting very thin sections of plastic. I wouls then (with greater care) lift these thin sections from the knife with a thin copper grid about 1/8 in. dia. with a pair of froceps, while looking through a binocular disecting microscope . This required extreme precision and the use of both hands. There could not be any shaking or movement of the hands or fingers while performing this operation. After these sections were on the grid, they were stained with a solution of lead, to make the tissue show contrast after being put into the electron microscope. At first I was only responsible for this type of work, but I was able to observe and learn about all of the operations in electron microscopy. I was then taught how to print the negatives that were taken on the electron microscope. I had to learn how to judge the amount of exposure to give the light sensitive paper and what contrast the final print must have. This type of work was very interesting to me during this time of learning, and later developed into one of my strongest hobbies, even though at this time I did not know anythein about photography. At this time, I was responsible for taking the negatives to the darkroom, printing them on paper, developing them prints in solutions , fixing and washing the prints, and finally drying them and labeling.

As I became more learned in the electron microscope precedures, I became responsible for taking tissue culture cell samples, and fixing them in solutions to kill all action of the cells. I then carried the cells through solutions of alcohol to remove the water from the cells and then put them into the plastic(epoxy) solution which was to be hardened in an oven. I then took the hardened plastic block, and trimmed it to the required cells, and put them into the microtome to be cut. I became responsible for for making up all of the solutions required. I soon was taught how to care and use the animals we that were necessary for our experiments. I learned how to inject the animals with cancer cells and kill and disect them as required. This type of work was very exciting, because I felt I was contributing to science research and I was able to see the complete project from start to completion., I also enjoyed the ability to learn about science,which I had always been interested in. I was responsible to compile records of our experiments and go to the library to read about new techniques.

After learning most of the techniques necessary to do my job as a electron microscope laboratory technician, I became interested in trying new techniques or ones other than those I had been taught. I remember while I was staining some thick plastic sections that would be used on the light microscope, I tried a new stain which I did not like, so I tried to change back to the old stain, to save the tissue section.When I did this, I found instead of going back to the old stain color, I had now two colors, a combination of the two stains. It was very exciting to see this, because I knew that I had found something new, and it was much better as a stain, than anything I had seen reported so far. I showed this to Dr. Chambers and she was also excited,and she told me to work on getting it to work well. In most of my spare time, I began to work on developing a new stain. As it turned out, I was not able to repeat what I had done, which was a dissapointment, but I knew that if I had done it once, I should be able to find the secret to doing it again. I tried many different experiments, but failed, so I decided to set about the project scientifically as I had observed Dr. Chambers doing in her own research work. I began writting down each experiment so I would not repeat myself and waste time from forgeting what I had done. After several years, I was able to find the combination of chemicals that would stain. At this point I was ready to have others in the department try this stain on their tissue, so as Dr. Chambers had mentioned before, the stain should be presented at a departmental seminar. Earlier she had said for me to get some slides, and she would present it for me, I was very dissapointed because I felt like I would do all the work and she would get all the credit, but I did not say anything because I felt very insecure as to my own ability,but as two years had elapsed since starting the project, when the time came, she told me to do it. I was very scared,but felt secure in my own research on this problem, so I did present it with slides and was given many congratulations on the work. It took two more years work to get many different tissues tested with the stain and work out most of the small problems, before it was ready for publication. By this time I had transfered to another job, and Dr. Parker was able to get me the money necessary to publish an article with colored pictures. I did not and still donot feel secure in trying to write and article, but Dr. Parker told me to write it and then he would help me rewrite and arrange it for publication. It was finally published about 4 years after I began. It was recieved well and I got reprint requests from all over the world. I felt good about the publication, but mostly because I had developed something that could very useful for many different peoples research.

During this period "63-66" we purchased a large light microscopecosting about 12,000. At this time I still didnot know a great deal about microscopes, but I was given the responsiblity to follow the instructions and set up the microscope to a good working order. Because this was one of the first and most expensive piece of equipment I had been given total responsiblity for, I learned as much about microscopes as I could and was very careful in the handeling and set up. After I had mastered how to use the microscope and how to take good pictures with it, I was put in charge of training other researchers on the use and proper care of the microscope.At this time, I became more interested in the process of photography (how to process films, the proper films,theory).We also purchased,soon after this, a Poloriod Copy Camera that could be used to copy pictures and other objects. I was also put in charge of how to use and care for this equipment. I decided to set up charts for exposure times and lens settings, so I and others would not have to waste time in making many trial exposures each time we wanted to use the equipment. I would take a trial exposure until I obtained the proper picture, and then record all the necessary information to be able to duplicate the picture again at a later date.

There were also many other pieces of laboratory equipment that I became familiar with such as a Vacuum evaporator, pH meter for checking solutions, centrifudge, water still and an introduction to the use of the Electron Microscope. At this time all Electron Microscopes were quite new to the science world, and were usually used only by the the researchers with a Doctorate degree. It did take me many years before I was allowed to freely be able to use the Microscope by myself. This did not bother me in the early years when I was still learning, but later when I was restricted only because of degree, and not because of lack of technical skill, I was upset. I was always supported by the Doctors I worked for, and never denied use of equipment by them, but because the microscopes were owned by the departments, they were not able to overcome those decisions.

I also learned how to become skilled at cutting and mounting photographic prints to be sent used for an article in a publication. This was something I learned easily, because I have always had an urge to line up items. I always will be lining up my shoe or furniture by eyesight against other objects in the background while I will be sitting in a meeting of party, I use to enjoy target shooting with a rifle to be able to line up the sights accurately. I did become good in the Army with the rifle and earned an award for my shooting.This habit has always been with me , and I still use in my gardening to line up trees and plants for proper shade and natural setting in my yard and garden.

Sometimes this urge seems to be over powering, and people will wonder what I amd doing when unconsciously I will be squinting to line up by eyesight the chair egge or hat or anything of the person in front of me, against a distant bookcase or crack in the floor or anything where I can bring two or more things into alignment.

Jan. 16
Shared

In my early years I had very steady hands, which was invaluable in being able to the fine work of Electron Microscopy. Some work that I found easy was that of trimming blocks with a razor blade under the binocular dissecting scope.Our work called for finding single cells under a phase microscope and then trimming these blocks to those single cells where even the smallest movement would mean the end of that particular cell. I found this fun and exciting because I felt skilled in doing something that I knew no one that I knew was able to do. This skill proved valuable to the research in being able to easily and quickly get the exact cells necessary for the research problem.
After having worked for Dr. Chambers for 3 years and learning many techniques I was becoming dissatified because I wanted to try new things, and I found little support for this , because of the routineized nature of this laboratory and the general attitude of not wanting to try anything until it had already been proven. I was very thankful for the training I had ~~done~~ been given and the especially the first introduction into laboratory techniques from a person who was a perfectionist. Even though I have not always followed this way, I have always known what the ideal goal of each technique is and how it should be done the best way. I try to look upon each of the skills that I have as an Art, to be done with the utmost of perfection , so that if it is a repair job on a car, planting trees, taking pictures, building in the house or what ever, it must be done perfectly or not at all.

It was about this time in my life that I found a skill in being able to understand almost any type of mechanidal euqipment, and being able to repair it. From small home applicnaes, automobile motores, large appliances, ~~wat~~ toys, I found that it was very easy to understand how these things worked, and in some cases to see how they should have worke or been built and to rebuild them so they did work better. This hobby grew until soon I was being asked by my wife to repair friends equipment that would not work, and they could not fix. In most cases I found it easy to quickly analyze the problem and repair . Recently I have gone to rebuilding old refigeration equipment to fixing unused(because it didnot work) stero equipment for a friend. I really enjoy this skill, because I find it easy and exciting

to use a skill that I have, that I see so many others either do not have time to develop or have no ability for.
In may case because of need , I have found it enjoyable of go to the library and read a book on the subject I will be needing to use. I learned to do welding this way, much of the automobile repair, photography, and other areas.

Before leaving my job with Dr. Chambers, I trained a new laboratory technician for her. This was my first real teaching experience. I do not really enjoy this type of work, unless the person I am teaching has great enthusiasm for learning as I did. I do not think I should have to repeat often, because their interest will help them to learn easily. If I have to repeat simple statements to students, I know they do not care to learn and I loose interest for the teaching.

At about this time, I had purchased an old home near to the university, becaus I could not stand to fight the traffic everyday. I became interested in learning how to repair and rebuild this house, so I learned on my own,by reading, asking questions, and experience, how to rewire the electrical wiring, build new walls, plaster, lay tile, paint, and many other . I also at this time became very inter= ested in gardening(especially in growing vegetables and fruit trees)

1966- 1970

At this time, I was given an opotunity to become the manager of a research laboratory for Dr's Odland and Paker. I was very excited about this, because I felt this was an opening to a career in scientific research in Electron Micro- scopy. I did get a raise in salary and took on the responsibility of managing this laboratory with one other helper.
I wasvery excited about this typ of work, because it was related directly ot the patients in the University hospital. The research work delt with people related diseases and processes of growth and change in humans.
During this time, I was able to see operations, and visit many area hospitals and talk to many of the people. I have always found this type of work interesting, because I can see the result of disease as it effects the patient, then fully understand the nature of the research I will be involved in and I find a great desire to work harder to help these people possibly find help to their problem. I do find the atomosphere in a hospital interesting and exciting. I would not like to do a routine job, but would find meeting patients, and working with

the Electron Microscope on their problem, very interesting and rewarding.

Having been given charge f of the laboratory, I was responsible to order all necessary item for the laboratory and equipment necessary, also to keep everything in order, restock all supplies as needed, keep records and maintain a filing system for negatives and prints., and tissue specimens. Much of the type of work I would be doing was similar to what I had done before, but much was new, and now I was responsible for it all.
In this laboratory, I had availible a large darkroom for use by myself and our laboratory helper. At this time I had become very interested in photography and darkroom work, so I redesigned the area and had a large steel sink built that would give us one of the best darkrooms in the ~~hospital~~ medical school. I had studied about darkroom design from many books and seeing othe darkrooms already built.

Jan 16

During this period of time, I spent a great deal of time experimenting with techniques in photography. I decided to work with ph color photography,(film and printing paper) that I could develop my self, and didnot have to be sent out to other labs for development. I did find this time useful for the lab, because there were many times that color photography was helpful in making a certain project more informative through the use of color slides and pictures. Because wew were involved with human patients, I was responsible in setting up the necessary instruments for taking tissue specimens, and for processing them for electron microscopy.I would in many cases go to the hospital surgery, to take the tissue immediately after it had been removed from the patient in the surgery. I remember that I always did enjoy going to the Hospital area, and especially the surgical area.
During this time, I also changed parts of the work area in the laboratory, to make it more efficient, that is put similar or related type of work together in a single area, so we were not always having to move all over the lab to complete one type of job. This is something I have always enjoyed, is to try and rearrange a area so that it either looks better or works more efficiently.
Many times I find that I would like to change something, just to have a change. I continued to use the techniques that I had learned about light microscopes in this position. I took pieces of equipment that had not been used for many years and put together a photographic setup so we could take good light microscope pictures.
I had still wanted to learn about the electron microscopes, but they were still held in such position, that there was a specialist for repair and only the

Doctors were really able to use them. The people I worked hard to get me to be able to use them , but were never able to break the barrier., so I really lacked the incentive to learn about how the microscopes really worked.

Because there was always a high turnover of women lab technicians, I had to train a few in the techniques that were required for electron microscopy. I always did enjoy this type of training an a one to one basis. I was able to learn about their feelings, and were able to easily communicate about the needs of our laboratory, and what had to be accomplished.

Also I became responsible to train two visiting investigators(Doctors) who wanted to learn electron microscopy. In one case I found this very difficult, because the one Doctor did not really care about learning, but really only wanted me or our lab technician to do the work for him as his own personal technician. I became very discourged with his attitude and found I did not care to be around him, and especially to continue to train. I did find that I was not at all interested in training others, unless they had an eagerness to learn what I knew, and wanted to really learn the technique of how to do electron microscopy themselves.

I do remember that the Doctors I worked fo treated me as an equal en many ways. They treated me with great respect as a professional in my area of work. It is well known that treating others with respect, is the easiest way to get the work done that you need, but I still felt needed and good.

I remember that every time a high political official would come, or a visiting Doctor they would introduce them as if I was equal to themselves.

Even though I was treated well, given management responsibility, and great support in all new things I wanted to under take, I still felt a sense of frustration and depression. I had one of the best laboratoryes, with heautiful window view, all the equipment I wanted, but still I could not get over the feeling that I was still only expected to do a routine production type job on the tissues, and all the other merits; of high salary, title, freedom, responsibility, were only to make me feel good and keep me from looking to other areas for work. The job that I actually did and what was expected to be done did not fit the quaifications that they had bestowed upon me and the/ I still did not feel like I could become a part of the overall project. I was really only expected to take the tissue sample, process and cut it for electron microscopy and then my part was finished. As I became more and more aware of this, I began to lack the interest I should have had in this type of job. For the first year, it was exciting and interesting, but then began to become very routine and dull. It is really very difficult to complain, because they were very good to me and helped me in many ways. I did learn a great deal from the

from the time I spent there, and feel it was very valuable to me, and also that I was able to help them in getting there laboratory working well, before I left.

Towards the third year, we became involved in taking samples of tissue from human embryos and unborn fetus. This at first was very interesting, but soon realized that I was involved in doing something that I could not morally justify. We would go the hospital, knowing before hand that the sample to be taken was to be from an aborted child. This was before the laws ahd been changed and other terminology was used to cover up for this fact. If the embryo was small, I did not feel badly, but I do remember one case where the whole uterus was removed and the Doctor then split it and a small baby fell out. It just seemed like murder as he then removed tissue samples.I remember also going to the morgue to remove tissue samples from a baby that had died at birth. This was interesting, but bothered me later. I think the final blow came when I went to the hospital knowing that the fetus to be aborted and tissues to be taken from was from the Doctor who would perform the pathology report on this fetus. I was almost sick as I stood there and watched him describe and cut up his own son.It was only shortly after this that I decided finally that I must leave.
I think that I would not hvee been bothered by all of this if I had thought that what we were doing would benefit eventually mankind, but it soon became apparent that all we were doing was frantically gathering tissues of that were not normally available and might not be available again. As the number of abortions increased, we soon were taking tissue samples everyday, only to gather as much as we could and we did not even have time to look at them .

1970 -

I had always wanted to live in a small town, and especially on a farm, so I decided that since I had now seven years experience in electron microscope techniques, I might have a chance at finding another job. Since I liked the eastern washington area and I had relatives living here, I thought that I would make this the first choice. I began asking others about the dept. of electron microscopy and found that this would be a good time to apply, since they were just starting to expand their facilities. I started by writing a letter to the director, asking generally if there might be oppotunities for employment, and explaining my qualifications, why I wanted to move and live there, and what I would like to do. As it turned out, there was an opening and after an interview I was hired. We moved over and during the move we began construction of a new house. When we arrived, I was able to use much of what I had learned about remodeling houses, to finish our house and save some money on labor costs. I started working at WSU as a service technician, who does work for other people, who do not have the time or ability to learn the techniques of electron microscopy, butwho have research problems requiring the use of electron microscopy.

Here I have been responsible to take the research problems of others and use my experience of electron microscopy to find the best way to get good results for their project. I do enjoy this type of work, because I can be in on the beginning of a project, usually helping to design and then I am able to follow through the whole project to the end and see and understand the results of what has been accomplished. I have tried to keep up with the latest techniques in electron microscopy by reading articles from the library and since I have been here I became interested in starting an reference file for my use, and the use of the students, and researchers on/in the techniquses for electron microscopy.It has become very valuable to me in helping others to get started on various techniques. Since comming here, I found a great support for learning all about the electron microscopes, and I have become more responsible for maintaining and some repair work on the microscopes. I have come to now understand more clearly the theory of microscope operation and this has helped me more in being able to use them. Here, I have been able to help in teaching students and others the techniques in electron microscopy.

AS our laboratory has been expanding, I have enjoyed being in on the planning and decision making, and the planning of space allocations. I have enjoyed looking at a room , the items necessary to be in it and planning the best use for the area.